

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

NISHIZAWA et al.

Att'y. Dck. No. 107348-00362

Application No.: CIP of 09/807,988

Examiner: J. Bidwell

Filed: September 15, 2003

Art Unit: 3651

For: TRANSFER SYSTEM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

September 15, 2003

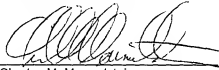
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 4. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/807,988, filed August 10, 2001, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 107348-00362	SERIAL NO CIP of 09/807,988
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT NISHIZAWA et al.	
		FILING DATE September 15, 2003	GROUP 3651

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
AA	5,012,917	5/1991	GILBERT et al.	198	465.2	
AB	5,271,490	12/1993	STICHT	198	465.2	
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO PART
AG	JP -A-61-81320	04/24/86	Japan			X	
AH	JP-A-4-306162	10/28/92	Japan			X	
AI	JP-A-10-217047	08/18/98	Japan			X	
AJ	JP-A-10-166230	06/23/98	Japan			X	
AK	JP-A-8-215944	08/27/96	Japan			X	
AL	JP-B2-4-57555	09/11/92	Japan			X	

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM	
AN	
AO	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION		
	AG	58-71049	4/1983	JAPAN			YES	NO
	AH	1351749	11/1987	SOVIET UNION				
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
	AL							

**OTHER REFERENCES** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

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